

b) contacting the labeled-cells with capture moiety-specific antibody under conditions effective for the capture moiety-specific antibody to attach to the labeled-cells, thereby forming a complex-labeled cells; and

c) removing the complex-labeled cells, thereby depleting sample cells of gp120+ cells.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the capture moiety-specific antibody is conjugated to magnetic particles.

5. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the capture moiety is FITC and the capture moiety-specific antibody is FITC-specific antibody conjugated to a magnetic particles.

6. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the magnetic particles are 10-100 nm in diameter.

7. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the magnetic particles are 10-100 nm in diameter.

8. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein removing the complex-labeled cells is accomplished by a magnetic field acting on the magnetic particles.

9. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising: separating CD4+ cells from the sample prior to said contacting.

10. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising: separating CD8+ cells from the sample prior to said contacting.

11. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the depleting sample cell population of cells expressing HLA-DR is accomplished by flow cytometry cell sorting and said cells are labeled with a fluorochrome-labeled antibody specific for HLA-DR.

12. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the resting lymphoid mononuclear cells are obtained from a lymphoid tissue.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the agent is phorbol ester or a cytokine.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the measure of latent viral load is compared to an established cell line harboring latent HIV-1.

16. (Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the cell line is OM-10.1, U1, or Jurkat cells.